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PATENT

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors: Ecker, Griffey, Sampath, Hofstadler, McNeil, Crooke,

Serial No.: 09/891,793

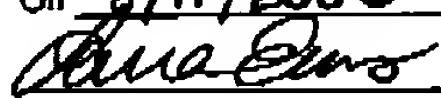
Group Art Unit: 1637

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Examiner: Fredman, Jeffrey Norman

Title: METHODS FOR PROVIDING BACTERIAL BIOAGENT  
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On 8/11/2006  
  
Laura Eames

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 03/16/2006

In response to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2006, and pursuant to the enclosed request  
for extension of time to reply, please accept the following:

- ☒ Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.
- ☒ Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which  
begins on page 4 of this paper.
- ☒ Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.